

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 503

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to recognize Rich Boyd on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of industry; and

WHEREAS, Rich Boyd is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for twenty-eight years as executive director of the Tennessee Arts Commission (TAC); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Boyd will be taking a much deserved retirement on January 31, 2012; and

WHEREAS, first joining TAC in 1984 as the assistant director, his hard work and tireless devotion to the organization led to his promotion to executive director in 1999; and

WHEREAS, his administration has been characterized by his efforts to make the arts more accessible and available to the public, especially students and working artists, and by his insistence on fiscal transparency and accountability of TAC funds; and

WHEREAS, his acumen for organization, programming, and marketing has increased the agency's funding for cultural activities from \$2.8 million to \$7.3 million over the last decade, greatly bolstering arts communities across the state and marking Tennessee as a leader in state arts agencies; and

WHEREAS, Rich Boyd's extraordinary leadership produced a rebirth of Tennesseans for the Arts and the formation of a state legislative arts caucus, deemed a model nationwide; and

WHEREAS, in addition to these ambitious projects, TAC expanded its Arts Education Program that focuses on arts integration and, in partnership with Middle Tennessee State University and the Tennessee Department of Education, helped to establish the Creativity in Education Institute in 2011 to further promote arts integration; and

WHEREAS, throughout his tenure, Mr. Boyd was responsible for many publications on Tennessee arts and culture, including *Tradition—Tennessee Lives and Legacies*, *A History of Tennessee Arts*, *Creating Traditions*, *Expanding Horizons*, and *Historic Tennessee Stages*; and

WHEREAS, under Mr. Boyd's administration, TAC introduced public art to the State with the Tennessee Interstate Welcome Center Program, resulting in the installation of twelve large-scale sculptures throughout the State; the Commission also facilitated showcases of public art at the State Capitol and the Tennessee Residence, and forthcoming displays at Conservation Hall; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his responsibilities at TAC, Rich Boyd has played leadership roles at South Arts and the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, served as a panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts, and was a member of the President's Committee on Arts and Humanities; and

WHEREAS, a native of Rutherford County, Mr. Boyd graduated from Belmont University and continued his studies at Middle Tennessee State University; he spent five years teaching in the Rutherford County school system, during which he was named "Teacher of the Year"; he authored *Liberty Hall—Reclaiming a Family Heritage*, documenting his restoration of the North Carolina plantation and gardens; and he is an accomplished producer, director, playwright, and composer; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Rich Boyd has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of colleagues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Rich Boyd our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.